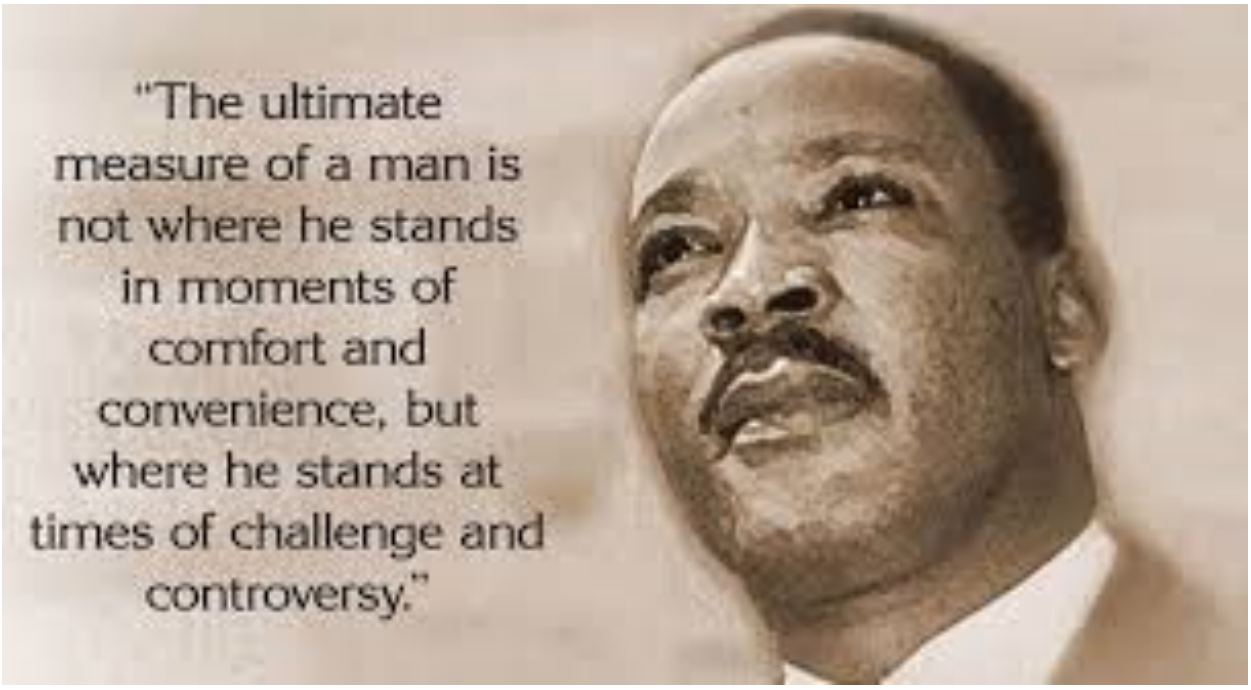
The Resurrection Window

A Memorial to The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

From the parishioners of Emmanuel Episcopal Church



A Short History and Artist's Description

Designed 1965

Installed and dedicated Sunday, June 23, 1968

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

Webster Groves, Missouri

How Emmanuel came to have this window in 1968

From Emmanuel Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes April 1968...

WEBSTER GROVES • On Tuesday, April 9, 1968 there was a regular Vestry meeting at Emmanuel. On the agenda that night was "King Memorial and church's stance on race".

The rector at that time, Esty Denkinger started out the topic by stating that" four people had contacted him or been contacted by him and had offered, anonymously, an amount of $700.00 toward the $1,100.00 total cost of the third memorial window.-the Resurrection window—as a memorial to Martin Luther King Jr."

"Mr. Denkinger further stated there were others he felt he could contact, without going to the entire Parish, to get the balance of this money and if this were not feasible, he would drop the matter."

Vestry minutes continue..."There was a lengthy discussion regarding this and the church's stance on race, and it was moved by Mr. Jost and seconded by Mrs. Brill that the Vestry grant permission for this to be done. Following more discussions, with Mr. Denkinger going around the table and asking each Vestryman to voice his opinion, Mr. Ferguson moved to table the matter until May and Mr. Jost and Mrs. Brill withdrew their motion and second."

It was then moved by Mr. Ferguson that this proposal be referred to a committee to be appointed by the Sr. Warden in consultation with the Rector and composed of a representative of the Social Responsibility, Worship and Property Commissions to report their recommendations to the next meeting of the Vestry. The motion died for lack of a second."

On Sunday, April 21, 1968 there was a Special Vestry meeting. At that meeting "Mr. Denkinger passed around excerpts from the minutes of April 9, 1968 pertaining to the discussion of this matter and also a two page fact sheet he had drawn up pertaining to this. He also stated the full $1,100.00 had been donated anonymously."

Emmanuel had just completed an expansion in 1966 and there were three new windows in the expansion. Only one had not been installed. It had been designed by Robert Harmon of Frei Studios, but the windows were all to be installed as memorial windows and no parishioner had come forward for that last window.

The Vestry minutes also included an eloquent rebuttal from a parishioner who did not believe a memorial window was the most appropriate way to remember Dr. King.

In the end the Vestry took a roll-call vote with six votes for, four votes against, and one abstention. The Rector, The Rev. Esty Denkinger did not vote but did declare the motion passed.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter. "

From the designer, Robert E. Harmon
"It is hoped that through this window, both through images, color, line and form, and because of the person to whom it is dedicated, will speak to the need for Exodus and Resurrection in our daily lives."





Egyptian Sphinx

Chalice

Red Sea Symbol

Trowel and Bricks



Hour glass shape

Seed pod





Space capsule Peacock Star of David



Scales of Justice Caduceus

(medical symbol)

Music notes are to We Shall Overcome

A Look Back…

St. Louis Post Dispatch article April 3, 2011

ST. LOUIS • The news flashed from Memphis, Tenn., on the evening of April 4, 1968: The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. had been shot by a sniper. Anger exploded in cities across the nation.

In downtown St. Louis, almost 100 black inmates in the old jail rioted at 8:30 p.m., barely 90 minutes after King was pronounced dead. They ripped away plumbing and started small fires. Some shouted, "They killed our leader."

Police fired tear gas into the cellblocks, then hustled coughing, handcuffed inmates across Clark Avenue to police headquarters. Later that night, business windows were shattered at North Kingshighway and Page Avenue. A firebomb was thrown at a grocery, but didn't ignite. Overnight, riots erupted in Washington, Memphis, Boston, Chicago.

The next morning, 75 local civil-rights leaders met at the Mid-City Community Congress, 4005 Delmar Boulevard, to plan a memorial march for Palm Sunday, two days hence. With everyone on edge, militants and moderates shouted at each other. There were demands to bar white politicians and police officers. A militant, James Rollins, bluntly warned of the plans, "If we militants don't go along with it, you're not going to have a nonviolent march."

Morris Hatchett, a World War II pilot and head of the local NAACP stood firm against violence: "We're all black. ... This battle of name-calling has got to go." They announced the march together. On Saturday, the national death toll was 19 as riots spread to Pittsburgh, Baltimore and Minneapolis. St. Louis and East St. Louis reported more firebombs and smashed windows. Somehow, none of that touched off rioting. So far, Hatchett's hope was holding.

About 7,500 people gathered at the Gateway Arch on Sunday. Led by organizers locked arm-in-arm, they marched eight miles to Forest Park. Thousands more joined downtown, including Mayor Alfonso J. Cervantes and St. Louis County Supervisor Lawrence K. Roos. The assembly grew to 30,000 as it came down Union Boulevard toward the park.

News reports said about 60 percent of the marchers were black. Most of the whites were near the back of the 20-block-long line parade. Some marchers carried banners. Many sang civil rights songs. Five white girls stood along Union holding a sign: "Your loss is ours, too."

Police wore black armbands and stood back as the parade's volunteer marshals kept the peace during the 2½-hour march. Once in the park, the crowd grew even larger.

"We should honor the memory of the great apostle of freedom, justice and love," the Rev. Vinton R. Anderson, of St. Paul AME Church, told the weary marchers. "We have lived up to our commitment." More churches held memorials. More fires were set. But St. Louis didn't burn.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

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